Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 082782 ORIGIN EUR-08

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R 310211Z MAR 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, IT US

SUBJECT: CRAXI VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: ROME 5460

- 1. WE AGREE THAT IF CRAXI EMERGES FROM THE SOCIALIST PARTY CONFERENCE THIS WEEK IN A STRENGTHENED POSITION, A VISIT TO WASHINGTON DURING APRIL WOULD BE IN OUR INTEREST AND WOULD FURTHER STRENGTHEN HIS POSITION.
- 2. WE ARE PREPARED TO ASK THF VICE PRESIDENT AND DR. BRZEZINSKI
 TO RECEIVE CRAXI. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, HOWEVER, WE CAN APPROACH THEM WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE APPOINTMENTS ONLY AFTER DETERMINING A MORE PRECISE TIME FRAME FOR A CONFIDENTIAL

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CRAXI VISIT HERE. THIS SAME CONSIDERATION APPLIES WITH REGARD TO THE CALENDAR OF THE SECRETARY AND OTHER SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. THEREFORE NO ASSURANCES CAN BE GIVEN TO CRAXI NOW.

3. DEPENDING UPON THE OUTCOME OF THE SOCIALIST CONFERENCE, WE WILL AWAIT FURTHER ADVICE FROM YOU BEFORE ADDRESSING MEMORANDA TO THESE OFFICES CONCERNING APPOINTMENTS FOR

CRAXI WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, DR. BRZEZINSKI AND SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THE LAST WEEK

OR TEN DAYS IN APRIL, TO GIVE US AMPLE TIME TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS IF A CRAXI VISIT CONTINUES TO LOOK GOOD TO YOU AND IF HE IS RECEPTIVE TO YOUR APPROACH. COOPER

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